

SB 6622 - DIGEST

(SEE ALSO PROPOSED 1ST SUB)

Provides that, upon request, the department shall disclose the fact that a report was received and the status of any investigation, unless the department has a reason to believe disclosing such information may compromise the investigation or the safety or well-being of a vulnerable adult.

Authorizes the department to provide the outcome of the investigation to an agency, program, or provider serving a vulnerable adult. The name of the vulnerable adult and the alleged perpetrator of abuse, abandonment, neglect, or financial exploitation may be disclosed. The department shall not disclose the identity of the person making the report to the department or any witness without such individual's written permission. The term "witness" does not include the alleged perpetrator.

Provides that upon request of a legislator or a state agency as defined in RCW 42.17.020 serving vulnerable adults or children, the department will disclose the results of an investigation under chapter 74.34.RCW. In cases where the department determines that an incident of abuse, abandonment, neglect, or financial exploitation is founded, the requestor shall be informed whether the finding is initial, subject to the alleged perpetrator's right to an administrative appeal, or final, following the administrative appeal process.

Directs the department to establish by rule a state registry that contains identifying information about individuals investigated under this chapter found to have abused, abandoned, neglected, or financially exploited a vulnerable adult. Information provided under this chapter is limited to postdue process findings made by the department under this chapter. Contingent on resources, the department shall make readily available to the public a means to query the state registry to determine if an individual has been found by the department to have abused, abandoned, neglected, or financially exploited a vulnerable adult.

Repeals RCW 74.34.068.